

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

2015-16 Implementation

Technology

WIDA and project partners on the ASSETS grant are committed to using technology to the maximum extent possible to develop, administer, and score the assessment and report assessment results.

The benefits of administering the new assessments on computer include:

- Increased student engagement
- Standardization of the test-taking experience
- Built-in accommodations appropriate for individual student needs
- Simultaneous administration of multiple grades and tiers
- Elimination of individual administrations of the Speaking test

To ensure that computer delivery does not interfere with students' ability to demonstrate the full extent of their current English proficiency, cognitive labs and pilot studies will be conducted to optimize interface usability, verify items have the desired psychometric properties, and minimize any negative affect associated with computer delivery of tasks. Students and administrators will have an opportunity to become familiar with the interface through a tutorial with practice items.

Technology Requirements


To minimize the planning burden on districts, the technical requirements match the PARCC and Smarter Balanced consortia requirements whenever possible.

Operating systems and devices - minimum recommendations

| Operating System/Device | Current Devices | New Purchases |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Windows | | |
| Version | 7 or newer * | 7 or newer |
| Processor | 1.4 GHz or faster | 1.4 GHz or faster |

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Memory (RAM) | 1 GB or more | 1 GB or more |
| Free drive space | 1 GB or more | 1 GB or more |
| Mac OSX | | |
| Version | 10.5 | 10.7 or newer |
| Processor | Intel x86 or PowerPC G5 800 MHz | 1 GHz or faster |
| Memory (RAM) | 512 MB | 1GB or more |
| Free drive space | 200 MB | 1 GB or more |
| Linux | | |
| Version | Ubuntu 9-10 or Fedora 6 | Ubuntu 11.0 or Fedora 16 or newer |
| Processor | Pentium or AMD 500 MHz | 1 GHz or faster |
| Memory (RAM) | 512 MB | 1GB or more |
| Free drive space | 200 MB | 1 GB or more |
| Chrome | | |
| Version | Chrome OS 19 | Chrome OS 19 or newer |
| iOS | | |
| Version | iPad 2 with iOS 7 | iPad Air with iOS 7 or newer |
| Android | | |
| Version | 4.0 | 4.0 or newer |
| Windows Tablets | | |
| Version | Windows 8 | Windows 8 or newer |

Additional Requirements for all operating systems and devices

| Requirement |
|--|
| Screen |
| <p>Size: 9.5-inch or larger</p> <p>Resolution: 1024 x 768 or higher</p> |
| Keyboards |
| <p>External keyboard</p> <p>Mouse, touchpad, or touch screen</p> <p>Alternative input devices if allowable accommodations</p> |
| Headsets |
| <p>Headset with microphone required</p> <p>Recommendations for Purchasing Headsets </p> |
| Security |
| <p>Must be able to manage user security settings to temporarily disable some features, such as email, messaging, screen capture, unrestricted Internet access, and so on</p> |

Considerations for tablet users

| Consideration |
|---|
| Network |
| <p>The number of concurrent users may be limited when using wireless access</p> <p>It has not yet been determined whether Bluetooth devices will be allowable</p> |
| Screen size |
| <p>Minimum 9.5-inch screen with 1024 x 768 or higher resolution</p> |
| Keyboard |
| <p>External keyboard required to minimize scrolling for graphics-intensive items</p> |

Headsets

Some tablets may require use of an adaptor

[Recommendations for Purchasing Headsets](#) 

Operating System

Due to the variety of devices and operating systems, a device certification process may be required

Network

The table below reflects minimum and recommended bandwidth requirements. Additional concurrent network activities will reduce the bandwidth available for testing. See the State Education Technology Directors Association publication *The Broadband Imperative* for more information about bandwidth targets for assessment and instruction.

| Local Caching? | Bandwidth (per student) | |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | Minimum | Recommended |
| Yes | 20-50 kbps | 50 kbps or more |
| No | 40-100 kbps | 100 kbps or more |